

MOUNTAIN Warrior Weekly

Issue 3

Published for the servicemembers of Kandahar Air Field

September 8, 2003

Saving Kandahar One life at a time.

Story and photo by Spc. C. Elijah Spencer

211th Mobile Public
Affairs Detachment

-- Kandahar Air Base, Afghanistan

While most of the world is paying attention to the fall of the statue of Saddam Hussein, the death of his sons, and the cat and mouse game that America has been playing with both Saddam and Osama Bin Laden, the positive aspects of war have been made abundantly clear. What isn't shown on television is the other war that goes on simultaneously in the hospitals and clinics of the Armed Forces. The fight between life and death, sickness and health, is being fought by the heroic people of Charlie



Staff Sgt Garthineia D. Holloway, from Hickory, N.C., observes an Afghani father give his son a drink.

Medical Company at Kandahar Air Field twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. All to ensure servicemembers get the best medical care possible.

Charlie Med. Co., along with the soldiers of the 911th Forward Surgical Team [FST], a veterinarian, and an entomologist, make up a quick reacting, ef-

fective medical support team. They work out of the newly built PFC Jerrod Dennis Combat Hospital; the attitudes of these soldiers towards their mission is clear.

"The mission is simple. We provide Level II Combat Health Support to task force Warrior and select Coalition

— Charlie Med. pg.

MWR; Kandahar Style

Story and photo by Spc. C. Elijah Spencer

211th Mobile Public
Affairs Detachment

--Kandahar Air Base,
Afghanistan

After performing their jobs in the rigorous conditions of Kandahar Afghanistan, soldiers at Kandahar Air Base unwind and relax with the help of

essential, yet unsung, heroes. The Morale, Welfare, and Recreation [M.W.R.] department of the United

States Armed Forces, work diligently day and night to ensure soldiers have a means of letting go of stress

and relaxing for a while.

The MWR is set up to provide servicemembers with amenities that make life in the military a little easier. On Kandahar Air Base, the MWR has been doing an exceptionally good job keeping the servicemembers of Operation Enduring Freedom in high spirits, despite the hazardous conditions here.

"It's like I'm not in Afghanistan anymore. It's almost like I'm back in the states for a moment," said Pfc. Kieth M. Shriener, from Fishers, IN.

— MWR pg.



A soldier concentrates while performing the curl exercise in the Kandahar Gym.

From the Top



Destruction of Stored Landmines in Afghanistan Helps to End Legacy of Suffering by the Taliban

As part of the ongoing humanitarian mine action program in Afghanistan, the Office of Humanitarian Demining Programs in the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Political-Military Affairs arranged for the rapid destruction of over 10,000 anti-tank landmines strewn in an unsecured ammunition supply point in Afghanistan's Kandahar Province. The Governor of Kandahar Province specifically requested this assistance after it became known that terrorists were creating concealed traps using explosive material from mines stolen from that supply point.

Teams from RONCO, an American company contracted to the Bureau of Political-Military Affairs for humanitarian demining and unexploded ordnance disposal worldwide; the Demining Agency for Afghanistan; and Handicap International (Belgium) safely destroyed the landmines in nine days. Experts had estimated the operation would take four to six weeks. The UN Mine Action Center for Afghanistan certified that the work met internationally recognized standards. Images of the operation can be viewed at <http://www.state.gov/r/pa/ei/pix/events/b/22066.htm>.

"The United States does not normally engage in the destruction of stockpiled mines as we prefer to focus on the emplaced persistent mines that pose an immediate threat to civilians," remarked Lincoln P. Bloomfield, Jr., the Special Representative of the President and Secretary of State for Mine Action, who also serves as Assistant Secretary of State for Political-Military Affairs. "This successful operation demonstrates our ability to respond to situations in several post-conflict environments, ranging from Afghanistan to Iraq, in which cached mines and other types of munitions, small arms and other weapons are poorly secured, widely available and an imminent danger."

Courtesy of AP.com



Mountain Warrior Weekly falls under the supervision of The Combined Joint Task Force 180 and is published weekly on Mondays.

Coalition Task Force

Warrior Commander:

Col. William B. Garrett III

Coalition Task Force Warrior

Command Sgt. Maj.

Command Sgt. Maj. Frank A. Grippe

10th Mountain Brigade PAO:

Capt. Kevin K. Dasher

Mountain Warrior Weekly, a U.S. Army newsletter, is produced by the 211th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment, U.S. Army Reserve at Kandahar Air Field, Afghanistan.

Commander:

Capt. Kevin K. Dasher

NCOIC:

Staff Sgt. Dave S. Thompson

Editor/Layout/Graphics:

Spc. C. Elijah Spencer

Journalist / Photojournalist:

Spc. Zia Ul Haq, Spc. Timothy S. Melzow

In accordance with AR 360-1, this newsletter is an authorized unofficial publication for members of the U.S. military. The contents of *Mountain Warrior Weekly* are not necessarily the official views of or endorsed by the U.S. government, DOD or Dept. of the Army. (all submissions are subject to editing for size)

Word from the Warriors

How did 9/11 change your life?



"It made me appreciate the job that I do, and realize my purpose here."

-Spc. Peter J. Rogers
-A. Troop 3/17th Cav.



"It was a wake up call for everyone in the military and it has also given me lots of experience"

-Staff Sgt. John M. Koci
-911th FST



"It has made me more cautious of my surroundings in everyday life"

-Sgt. Lori A. Anderson-Doby
-274th MP Co.



"It put my life on hold for two years but I'd rather be serving my country than at home"

-Senior Airman Jason H. Allen
-451st Air Expeditionary Group

C-MED from pg. 1 —

Forces, in order to enable full spectrum operations," said Capt. Mark W. Maitag, the commander of Charlie. Med., from Laurel Springs, N.J.

The team is capable of taking on virtually any medical task put before them. Trauma patients are transported to their facility, treated and monitored until they are stabilized.

"We are definitely in a unique situation. When you join the type of teams that we have here, you get more than the sum of all the parts. You get a comprehensive facility that is very well capable of taking care of a soldier if he's wounded in battle. There's nothing like this in Bagram or Iraq. It markedly enhances the ability of the 10th Mountain to come here and do their job and feel confident that we have their backs," Said Maj. Philip D. Chadwick, from Hoodriver, OR.

Some features of the Dennis Combat Hospital include X-ray facilities, a pharmacy, laboratory, and complete operating and emergency

rooms.

These facilities are vital to Kandahar Air Field because of its remote location. Bagram, the closest major base, is approximately 300 miles away. If serious medical attention is needed, a patient does not have to wait for transportation to Bagram, thus increasing his or her chances of survival. The hospital also treats local Afghanis. Given the large number of people affected by land mines, local Afghanis see the hospital as a beacon of hope.

"We treat all the forces of southern Afghanistan," said Maitag, "We help out Bagram a lot, and the training that the staff here is getting is unlike anything they've ever experienced."

The majority of the unit is happy to be working in the Jerrod Dennis Combat Hospital.

"We see stuff here that we would never see at home," said Sgt. Aida L. Negron, from Puerto Rico.

"This is what we do. It's good to see all the training

come together. I'm just happy to be here and be able to gain all of this experience. You can't simulate this." Said Staff Sgt. Patrick A. Anderson, from the 911th FST.

In a normal deployment, the unit would be working out of tents, in the field, in dusty conditions, with barely sufficient lighting.

"This is like the Club Med of field hospitals." Said Maitag.

"This is nice," said Anderson, "It's a lot better environment to treat people in."

The newly established hospital plays an essential role in the coalition's efforts to rebuild the country of Afghanistan; by providing medical attention to whoever needs it, regardless of affiliation.

"Our main goal is to provide medical attention. It doesn't matter who you are and what you look like, if you need it we will provide it." Said Spc. Stacy-Ann Alexis Hayletts, from Bronx, N.Y.

The soldiers of Charlie Co. and the 911th FST prove them-

selves time and again to be the best at what they do. The experience they gain during this deployment will make them more valuable in their career field.

"When this is all over, they will be 150% better," said Maitag, "They will be the top medics in the Army."

The soldiers of Charlie Co. are ready to do what it takes to get the job done and complete their mission. The confidence they have towards taking care of whatever situation arises reflects in their work.

No matter what the circumstance, soldiers of the 1st Brigade, 10th Mountain Division know the doctors, nurses and medics of "Charlie Med" stand ready to support them.

"When its time to do the work, we get the job done." Said Hayletts.

"Being in this career field, we all have to be professionals at what we do. You can't just do what you want to do when you want to do it. You do what you have to do to get the job done." Said Negron.

MWR from pg. 1 —

The Kandahar MWR provides services such as an Internet Café, phone booths for calling back to the states, gymnasium, and a game room. Most facilities are open 24 hours a day. Whether a person works on the day or night shift, there is always time to indulge in a little MWR.

Bill O'Brian is a Department of the Army Civilian from Ft. Polk, LA. who was recently assigned to Kandahar to replace the current director, Ms. Sheila Edwards, from Ft. Eustis, VA.

"When I was in the military, I was a Military Policeman, and those nights when my shift would end around 2 in the morning there was always something to do in an MWR facility. I would either go work-out or watch a movie of some sort. Anything to take your mind off of your duty

for a while." said O'Brian.

Most service members agree that, without the MWR, attitudes toward serving in Afghanistan would be rather negative.

"You never have to just sit in your tent if you don't want to," said Spc. Shannan E. Coolbaugh, from Towanda, Pa.

"It feels good to be able to get away from the structure every now and then." Said Spc. Daniel Preigo, from Sacramento, Calif.

According to O'Brien, servicemembers in Kandahar should expect to see even more from the MWR in the near future. "There's so much more planned for this place. It's only a matter of time before the wheels start turning and things start moving." said O'Brien.

"They [MWR] have made this



This soldier takes advantage of his free time by lounging in the furniture provided by the MWR and writing in his journal.

place a lot better than I thought it would be," said Coolbaugh, "I look forward to what else they have planned for this place. It really helps us out to have something else to do than just your job and it also makes me feel appreciated...and I like that."

WORLD NEWS



Afghan Troops Capture Taliban Commander

By NOOR KHAN

Associated Press Writer

QALAT, Afghanistan (AP) — Afghan forces in the southern province of Zabul captured five fugitive Taliban militants, including an insurgent leader, after a battle that killed scores of rebels, a regional Afghan commander said Saturday.

The U.S. military said it could confirm that at least 84 enemy fighters were killed in action.

The main Afghan commander in Zabul province, Haji Saifullah Khan, said his troops patrolling the district of Mizan, 25 miles northwest of the provincial capital, Qalat, captured the Taliban fighters late Friday. The captives included a junior rebel commander identified as Mullah Salam.

"Mullah Salam was injured and he was taken away in a U.S. helicopter," Khan said without elaborating.

The fleeing Taliban were retreating from Dai Chupan - the Zabul district that was the scene of some of the heaviest fighting since the U.S.-led coalition ousted the ruling hard-line Islamic militia in late 2001.

Khan said hundreds of Afghan National Army troops are expected to be deployed in Zabul province next week to maintain security.

Meanwhile, U.S. troops remained in Dai Chupan and in eastern Paktika province, bordering Pakistan, searching for Taliban holdouts in an operation dubbed "Mountain Viper."

Although Afghan officials claimed victory Wednesday after a nine-day battle in Dai Chupan, the U.S. military said it considers the operations ongoing.

"Operations since yesterday have focused on combat patrols to enhance security," Col. Rodney Davis said Saturday in a statement from Bagram Air Base, the U.S.-led coalition's headquarters north of the capital, Kabul.

The coalition is giving humanitarian assistance to villagers in the area, he said.

Afghan military commanders claim they have retrieved the bodies of at least 124 Taliban killed in the fighting in Dai Chupan. The U.S. military said it could confirm that at least 84, and perhaps 95, enemy fighters were killed in action.

Two American soldiers died in a firefight in Paktika last week that also killed four suspected insurgents.

The fighting - following a series of Taliban attacks against Afghan officials, police and aid workers in the south and east - has underscored the security problems faced by President Hamid Karzai's administration, which took power soon after the Taliban's ouster in late 2001.



Pentagon's combat pay position criticized

By ROBERT BURNS

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Presidential contenders and congressional Democrats criticized the Pentagon on Thursday for opposing legislation that would extend an increase in combat pay for troops in Iraq and other war zones.

"If it's part of a cruel game of Washington budgeting, it's an abuse of our soldiers," one White House hopeful, Sen. John Kerry of Massachusetts, said while campaigning in Iowa. "If it's not, and the Bush administration is really considering cutting the pay of the men and women they asked to serve, then it's a betrayal of our troops," he added.

Pentagon officials said the criticism was off-base and that under no circumstances would troops in Iraq and Afghanistan be paid less.

But the Pentagon's position was called disgraceful by a second presidential candidate, Sen. Joe Lieberman, D-Conn.

"The Bush administration's decision to cut the pay of our troops in Iraq is unconscionable," he said. "It's bad enough that President Bush left our troops underprepared to win the peace in Iraq. Now the commander in chief is about to add insult to injuries by commandeering the imminent danger pay increase that Congress approved earlier this year."

The Pentagon's personnel chief, David Chu, told reporters at a hastily arranged news conference that the outrage was misguided. While it is true, he said, that the Pentagon favors allowing the extra combat pay allowances to expire in September, it will ensure that overall compensation for troops in Iraq and Afghanistan remains stable by giving them other forms of pay raises.

"I would just like to very quickly put to rest what I understand has been a burgeoning rumor that somehow we are going to reduce compensation for those serving in Iraq and Afghanistan," Chu said.

SPORTS



Shocked by Brock

MIAMI (AP) — Brock Berlin might have thought he hurt Florida when he left for Miami. Turns out, that was only the beginning of the pain.

Overcoming a 23-point deficit early and leg-buckling cramps late, Berlin threw for 340 yards Saturday night to lead the third-ranked Hurricanes on a stunning rally for a 38-33 victory.

"I can't explain it," said Berlin, who jilted Florida in favor of Miami after the 2001 season. "My emotions are just sailing right now."

In a performance that will stand with some of the best put in by Miami's long list of great quarterbacks, Berlin overcame two interceptions, a fumble returned for a touchdown and an overall terrible start to go 27-for-41 and earn a win in his first home start for the Hurricanes (2-0).

He added to the drama when, on the 89-yard drive that won the game, he ran around end to convert a fourth-and-1, then fell to the ground with cramps. The 'Canes took a timeout to help him get over it. On the next play, he hit Kyle Cobia for an 11-yard gain, and three plays later, Frank Gore (127 yards) scored a 12-yard touchdown to give Miami the lead. Florida (1-1) got the ball back

with 1:37 left and drove down to the Miami 20. But Al Marshall picked off freshman Chris Leak's desperation pass. Berlin came back onto the field to take a knee and run out the clock.

The junior claimed this was "just another game," but his celebration belied that statement. When the clock hit :00, he threw the ball sky high, then turned to a rowdy Gators rooting section and — what else? — mocked them with the famous Gator chomp.

"It's been a roller-coaster ride," Berlin said. "I've tried to be as calm as I could these last two weeks. I'm glad it's over with." Berlin's performance turned what looked like a great night for the Gators into a heart-breaker. They led 33-10 with 6:10 left in the third quarter, and coach Ron Zook appeared en route to the biggest victory of his checkered year-plus as Steve Spurrier's successor.

But his young, clearly talented, but unproven team fell apart. This one will probably go down as the worst collapse since 1994, when the Gators blew one at Florida State. In that game, they turned a 31-3 lead into a 31-31 tie. It had long been considered their worst-ever "loss," but not anymore.

Still, in the aftermath, many of the Gators were spinning a success story.

"Everyone was watching this, and now they know the Gators are for real," offensive lineman Shannon Snell said.

Miami's comeback began with Berlin engineering an eight-play, 85-yard drive during which he barely looked like the same quarterback who wore the green and orange for the first 2 1/2 quarters.

Given time to throw where he had none before, he picked and poked downfield, using screens, the sideline and the middle of the field with equal effectiveness.

He hit Kevin Beard (seven catches, 164 yards) for a 26-yard touchdown, and a 2-point conversion cut the score to 33-18.

The Gators could barely keep the ball over the final 20 minutes. Miami scored two more quick touchdowns to pull within 33-32 with 11:08 left. The 'Canes blew a chance to go for 2 and tie when Ryan Moore was penalized for excessive celebration after catching a 6-yard TD from Berlin.

Not to worry. On the next drive, Zook put redshirt freshman Gavin Dickey into the game for the first time. He drove them into Miami territory, but eventually was stopped. Berlin got the ball back with 5:43 left and 89 yards to go to the end zone.

"There were times we could have folded, could have given up," Miami coach Larry Coker said. "We never, never, never did that. We gave ourselves a chance to win."

Berlin, from Shreveport, La., put on a clinic that would have made Vinny Testaverde, Bernie Kosar, Gino Torretta or

Ken Dorsey happy. In fact, it might have been the best game-saving drive at the Orange Bowl since Dorsey led the 'Canes 73 yards for a late score in a 27-24 win over FSU in 2000.

Dorsey spent that night in the hospital with dehydration and cramps. The whole saga put him on the map. Now, Berlin has a spot there, too.

"We knew it was only a matter of time before Brock started clicking," Gators cornerback Keiwan Ratliff said. "We just had to build a big enough lead to withstand the comeback."

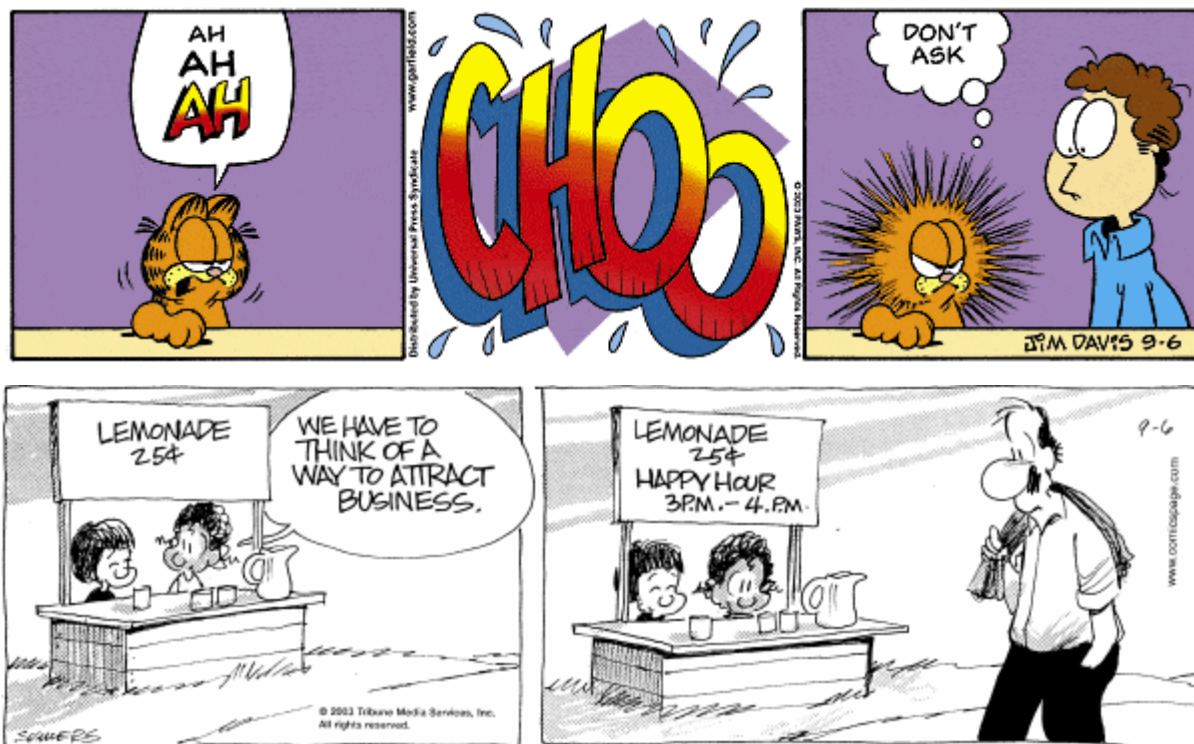
The Gators came in as 14 1/2-point underdogs, the biggest spread against them since 1988, two years before Spurrier arrived. If nothing else, they proved they could hang with the nation's best.

But beating them? That's a different story.



Berlin overcame some late-game cramping to complete the winning drive for the 'Canes.

WEEKLY COMICS



NFL WEEK 1 SCORES

Sunday, September 7, 2003

Final	1	2	3	4	T	Final	1	2	3	4	T
Indianapolis (1-0) =	0	3	3	3	9	Denver (1-0) =	3	17	7	3	30
Cleveland (0-1-0)	3	0	0	3	6	Cincinnati (0-1-0)	0	3	0	7	10

IND: P. Manning (27-43, 211), E. James (15-67)
CLE: K. Holcomb (20-29, 182), W. Green (21-86)
GameCenter: [Recap](#) • [Game Stats](#)
Full Play-by-Play
GameCenter: [Gamebook](#)
eRadio Replay: [IND](#) | [CLE](#)

DEN: J. Plummer (12-25, 115), C. Parls (24-120)
CIN: J. Kina (20-37, 264), M. Schobel (4-97)
GameCenter: [Recap](#) • [Game Stats](#)
Full Play-by-Play
GameCenter: [Gamebook](#)
eRadio Replay: [DEN](#) | [CIN](#)

Final	1	2	3	4	T	Final	1	2	3	4	T
Jacksonville (0-1-0)	0	14	3	6	23	New England (0-1-0)	0	0	0	0	0
Carolina (1-0-0) =	0	0	7	17	24	Buffalo (1-0-0) =	7	14	0	10	31

JAC: M. Brunell (27-27, 272), J. Lewis (3-90)
CAR: J. Dalton (12-20, 122), S. Davis (22-111)
GameCenter: [Recap](#) • [Game Stats](#)
Full Play-by-Play
GameCenter: [Gamebook](#)
eRadio Replay: [JAC](#) | [CAR](#)

NE: T. Brady (14-29, 123), K. Faulk (10-62)
BUF: D. Bledsoe (17-28, 230), T. Henry (28-86)
GameCenter: [Recap](#) • [Game Stats](#)
Full Play-by-Play
GameCenter: [Gamebook](#)
eRadio Replay: [BUF](#)

Final	1	2	3	4	T	Final	1	2	3	4	T
Baltimore (0-1-0)	0	0	7	8	15	St. Louis (0-1-0)	3	3	0	7	13
Pittsburgh (1-0-0) =	6	7	14	7	34	NY Giants (1-0-0) =	7	3	13	0	23

BAL: K. Boller (22-43, 152), J. Lewis (15-69)
PIT: T. Maddox (21-29, 260), P. Burress (6-116)
GameCenter: [Recap](#) • [Game Stats](#)
Full Play-by-Play
GameCenter: [Gamebook](#)

STL: K. Warner (34-54, 342), I. Bruce (8-120)
NYG: K. Collins (14-26, 202), T. Barber (24-146)
GameCenter: [Recap](#) • [Game Stats](#)
Full Play-by-Play
GameCenter: [Gamebook](#)

Final	1	2	3	4	T	Final	1	2	3	4	T
Atlanta (1-0-0) =	3	0	14	10	27	Oakland (0-1-0)	3	7	0	10	20
Dallas (0-1-0)	7	0	0	6	13	Tennessee (1-0-0) =	6	6	3	10	25

ATL: D. Johnson (16-27, 228), A. Crumpler (5-94)
DAL: Q. Carter (15-32, 268), J. Galloway (7-139)
GameCenter: [Recap](#) • [Game Stats](#)
Full Play-by-Play
GameCenter: [Gamebook](#)
eRadio Replay: [ATL](#)

OAK: R. Gannon (24-38, 264), C. Garner (8-112)
TEN: S. McNair (25-38, 269), D. Mason (10-99)
GameCenter: [Game Stats](#) • [Full Play-by-Play](#)
GameCenter: [Gamebook](#)
eRadio Replay: [OAK](#) | [TEN](#)

Final	1	2	3	4	T	Final	1	2	3	4	T
Houston (1-0-0) =	3	3	9	6	21	San Diego (0-1-0)	0	0	7	7	14
Miami (0-1-0)	0	14	0	6	20	Kansas City (1-0-0) =	14	10	3	0	27

HOU: D. Carr (17-31, 266), S. Mack (27-89)
MIA: J. Fiedler (17-32, 227), C. Chambers (7-118)
GameCenter: [Recap](#) • [Game Stats](#)
Full Play-by-Play
GameCenter: [Gamebook](#)
eRadio Replay: [MIA](#)

SD: D. Brees (18-33, 202), I. Norman (4-64)
KC: T. Green (21-32, 282), P. Holmes (7-98)
GameCenter: [Recap](#) • [Game Stats](#)
Full Play-by-Play
GameCenter: [Gamebook](#)
eRadio Replay: [SD](#) | [KC](#)

Final	1	2	3	4	T	Final	1	2	3	4	T
Minnesota (1-0-0) =	10	10	7	3	30	Arizona (0-1-0)	7	7	10	0	24
Green Bay (0-1-0)	0	3	8	14	25	Detroit (1-0-0) =	7	7	14	14	42

MIN: D. Culpepper (15-30, 195), R. Moss (9-150)
GB: B. Favre (25-41, 248), J. Walker (5-84)
GameCenter: [Recap](#) • [Game Stats](#)
Full Play-by-Play
GameCenter: [Gamebook](#)

ARI: J. Blake (28-46, 363), A. Boldin (10-217)
DET: J. Harrington (17-30, 195), O. Gary (12-44)
GameCenter: [Recap](#) • [Game Stats](#)
Full Play-by-Play
GameCenter: [Gamebook](#)

Final	1	2	3	4	T	Final	1	2	3	4	T
New Orleans (0-1-0)	3	0	0	7	10	Chicago (0-1-0)	0	7	0	0	7
Seattle (1-0-0) =	0	21	3	3	27	San Francisco (1-0-0)	10	23	6	10	49

NO: A. Brooks (29-47, 274), D. Stallworth (8-101)
SEA: M. Hasselbeck (12-23, 137), S. Alexander (24-108)
GameCenter: [Recap](#) • [Game Stats](#)
Full Play-by-Play
GameCenter: [Gamebook](#)

CHI: K. Stewart (14-34, 95), M. Booker (6-48)
SF: J. Garcia (19-35, 229), T. Owens (7-112)
GameCenter: [Recap](#) • [Game Stats](#)
Full Play-by-Play
GameCenter: [Gamebook](#)

HOT TOPIC

Rapper Sigel's Bail Remains in Doubt

By MARYCLAIRE DALE
Associated Press Writer

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Rapper Beanie Sigel's plan to leave jail for drug treatment was thrown into doubt after an alleged shooting victim and his girlfriend testified that they had been receiving threats about the case.

Following hearings in state and federal courts, Sigel's bail situation remained unresolved and was headed for another state hearing Monday.

Sigel, a 29-year-old South Philadelphia native, has a pending drug and gun case in federal court and two pending cases in state court, including an attempted murder charge.

Terrance Speller, who was allegedly shot by Sigel, and his girlfriend testified Friday morning that they had received daily threats about the case. None came directly from Sigel, they said.

"They received phone calls from people

on a daily basis, (saying) that their lives are in danger because of their cooperation in this case," prosecutor Deborah Robinson said.

Sigel allegedly shot Speller outside a West Philadelphia strip club on July 1, when he was out on bail for allegedly punching a man outside a Chinese restaurant.

Sigel attorney Brian McMonagle dismissed the alleged threats as rumors.

Earlier Friday, a state judge revoked bail, but then vacated that order pending a federal hearing. A federal judge asked for clarification of the order later Friday before moving forward, Assistant U.S. Attorney Curtis Douglas said.

Sigel, who was born Dwight Grant, has been held in federal custody without bail since July 14, but on Thursday he won the right to attend a residential treatment program for drug and alcohol

abuse and anger management.

To attend the program, Sigel had agreed to post a \$1 million federal bond, including \$150,000 in cash, his \$400,000 suburban Philadelphia home and four other properties.

He hoped to go home after the four-week program to finish up work on a third solo album, "The B-Coming," which had been scheduled for release this month, as well as other projects.

Defense lawyer Fortunato N. Perri Jr. didn't immediately return a phone message Friday.

Sigel, whose solo albums have sold more than 1 million copies, missed most of a summer "Roc the Mic" tour with Jay-Z, Memphis Bleek and other Roc-A-Fella label stars after he was taken into federal custody.

The federal charges stem from an April 20 traffic stop in which Sigel allegedly tossed a semiautomatic pistol from a Cadillac Escalade. As a convicted felon he is not allowed to carry a gun.

American women soldiers are opening Afghan eyes

Some members of Allentown unit see hints of change for the nearly invisible gender.

By Wendy Solomon Of The Morning Call BAGRAM, Afghanistan |

September 2, 2003

Editor's note: Reporter Wendy Solomon traveled in Afghanistan with the Pennsylvania National Guard's 213th Area Support Group, with headquarters in Allentown.

Maj. Kathy Brill, a wisp of a woman, sat face-to-face with a local warlord shortly after a rocket struck Bagram Air Base on a warm summer night.

As she spoke to him, he shuffled and shifted in his seat. He avoided sustained eye contact. And for a man who often said little, he was more voluble than usual.

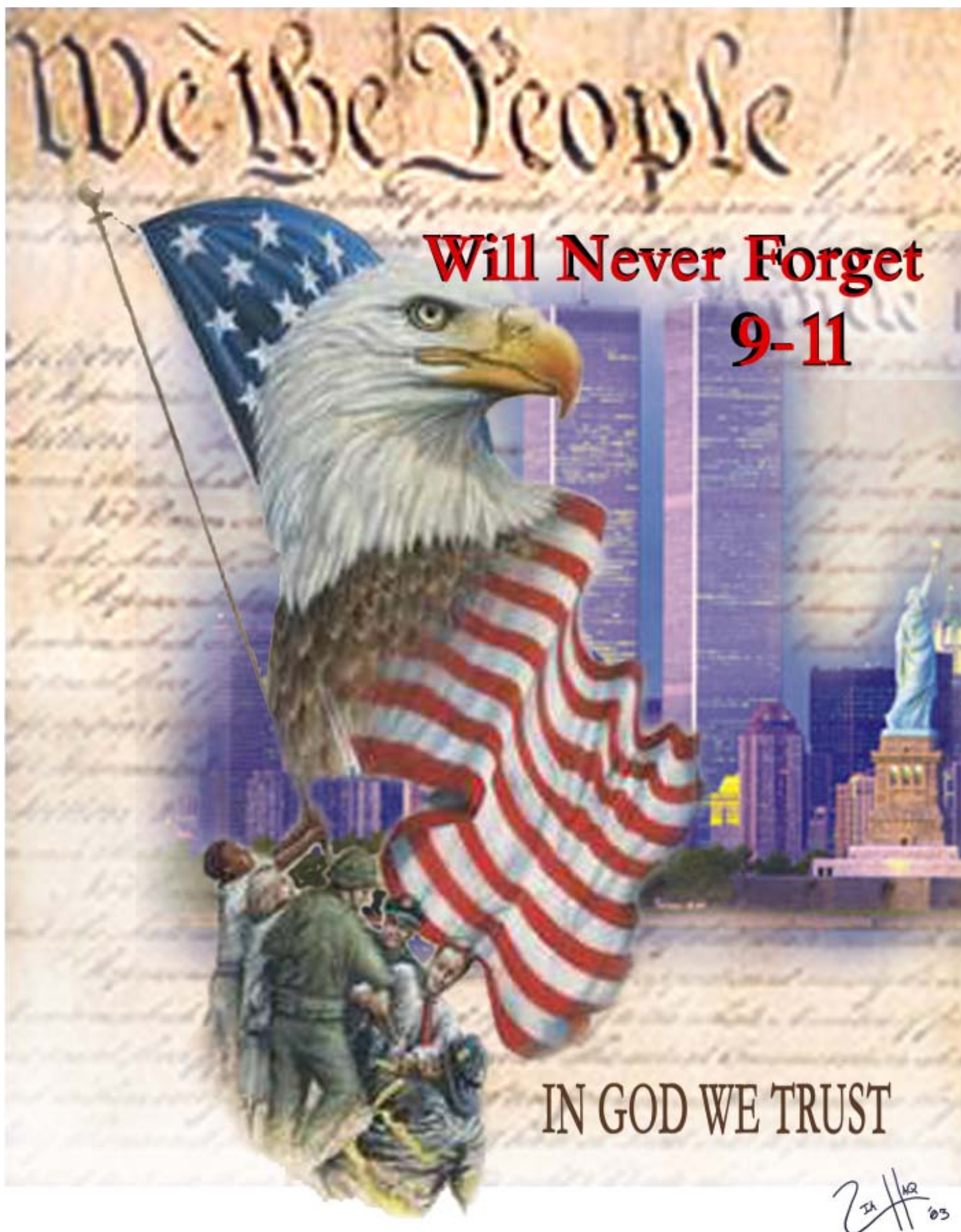
Brill conveyed the seriousness of the moment. Her tone was grave, the usual warmth gone from her voice. The Americans weren't happy and wanted to know who had fired the rocket and why.

Brill didn't get useful answers — she hadn't expected to. But she succeeded in putting an alpha male Afghan in close contact with a Western woman — a position more and more of his countrymen find themselves in since American-led troops toppled the Taliban regime nearly two years ago.

In Afghan society, women rarely are heard or even seen outside the home, let alone put in positions of authority. The increasing encounters between Afghan men and, to a lesser extent, Afghan women and Western women are eye-opening for all sides.

Brill's sit-down was calculated by the Americans because they knew it would unnerve and perhaps intimidate the warlord. They were realistic, however, about getting answers.

see WOMEN pg. 10





In Memory Of

SGT. Chad E. Fuller
1979-2003

PFC. Adam L. Thomas
1982-2003



... Out of Ranks But Not Out of Mind

JA HQ '03

from WOMEN pg. 8

"We didn't expect he would tell us who did it," said Brill, of Philadelphia. A tactical intelligence officer with the 213th Area Support Group, she stands barely over 5 feet and is dwarfed by the uniform that bags around her bony frame.

Because they got no information, Brill's superiors canceled a weekly bazaar on the base.

The warlord's reaction to Brill was not unlike that of other Afghans around Western women, particularly women soldiers.

Before the repressive Taliban regime and its extreme interpretation of Islam, women in Afghanistan were allowed to go to school, to hold jobs and to participate in government.

But the Taliban jolted women's rights backward. According to a Human Rights Watch report released this summer, women in many parts of Afghanistan are still prohibited from getting an education, health care, or to even leave their homes.

Outside of Kabul, women, from pre-adolescents up, are rarely seen. And those who venture outside still wear the burka, a tent-like robe once mandated by the Taliban but still worn by many Afghan women.

"They're usually surprised I'm a woman," said Army Reservist Staff Sgt. Paula Loyd, 31, a reedy blond woman with a girlish voice who leads a 450th Civil Affairs team throughout Kandahar province. It's a poor, rural area in southern Afghanistan, a former stronghold of the Taliban where more people cling to more traditional and fundamentalist beliefs.

"Sometimes I'll be talking to the men in a village and they'll turn to the interpreter and say, 'Is that a man or a woman?' But I haven't had any problems with them. They've all been very nice," Loyd said.

As a member of an Army civil affairs team, Loyd delivers food and clothing to villages and helps oversee the reconstruction of schools, wells and clinics that are built with American money and Afghan labor.

Loyd said Afghans do not expect their societal norms to apply to her because she is not from their culture. "So the fact that I'm a woman doesn't mean I need to be in a burka and they can't deal with me. They take me for who I am, they accept me for who I am. And they're willing to work with me," she said.

In her many forays into villages and cities in southern Afghanistan, Loyd has heard the frustrations of women and seen the results of a society that has marginalized them. One visit with the Balouch tribe in the Kandahar province was particularly memorable.

"I went to one woman's house and she said, 'We are screaming into the silence.' They all want to talk but they haven't had a chance to express themselves," Loyd said.

Loyd is often a requested speaker at school openings and graduations, where she addresses the importance of an education for girls. She still sees some villagers' resistance to allowing their girls to attend school. But she often brings up the idea of including girls, using the argument that the only way they will get female doctors is by allowing girls to get an education.

In Afghanistan, women are not permitted to be treated by a male doctor, although sometimes allowances are made if it's an emergency or if he knows the family. It's a tough country in which to survive and medical care is poor. There are so few doctors, many people, male or female, have never been treated.

Although Afghan women remain nearly invisible, there are hints of revolutionary change in Afghan society, as the central government attempts to improve women's legal, economic and political rights.

Loyd sees hopeful signs. "The men here really do care about the women's health. A lot of times we'll sit down with the village elders and they'll emphasize they need a clinic. They say, 'We have a lot of problems with our women and we want to get them fixed.'"

"Weekly Quote"

"I am not bound to win, but I am bound to be true. I am not bound to succeed, but I am bound to live by the light that I have. I must stand with anybody that stands right, stand with him while he is right, and part with him when he goes wrong."

- Abraham Lincoln

Mountain Warrior Weekly is always accepting comments and suggestions as to how we can improve your newspaper. If you have comments or suggestions, or simply just want to be added to our emailing list, email the staff at
Kandaharpresscenter@yahoo.com